

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the following paragraph beginning at page 13, line 31, with the following paragraph:

— This application is a continuation of USSN 09/454,498, filed 12/6/99, now US Patent No. 6,268,149, which is a continuation of USSN 08/946,679, filed 10/8/97, now US Patent No. 6,087,100, which is a continuation of USSN 08/709,263, filed 9/6/96, now US Patent No. 5,780,234, which is a continuation of USSN 08/166,036, filed 12/10/93, now US Patent No. 5,591,578. —

Please replace the following paragraph beginning at page 13, line 31, with the following paragraph:

— Figures [[1]] 1A to 1H illustrates illustrate possible orientations of electron donor (EDM) and electron acceptor (EAM) moieties on a single stranded nucleic acid. —

Please replace the following paragraph beginning at page 13, line 31, with the following paragraph:

— Figures [[2]] 2A-1 to 2A-9 and 2B-1 to 2B-9 illustrates illustrate orientations of electron transfer moieties EDM and EAM on two adjacent single stranded nucleic acids. These orientations also apply when the two probes are separated by an intervening sequence.